

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 37-54 are pending in this application and are presented for examination. Claims 1-36 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 37-54 have been newly added.

II. FORMALITIES

The undersigned representative wishes to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of July 11, 2007, regarding authorization to change the species election.

Support for new claims 37-54 is found throughout the specification as filed. In particular, support is found, for example, on page 3, lines 12-33; from page 6, line 21 to page 7, line 6; on page 10, lines 5-28; on page 21, lines 1-6; on page 28, lines 10-14; from page 34, line 7 to page 36, line 14; on page 75, lines 4-18; from page 76, line 1 to page 78, line 9; from page 82, line 17 to page 83, line 27; on page 93, lines 9-23; and in Table 1 on pages 93-100. Thus, no new matter has been introduced. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the new claims be entered.

III. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

Claims 27-28 and 31-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking sufficient written description. The Examiner alleges that these claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that Applicant, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. In response, Applicant has canceled claims 27-28 and 31-36 without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

IV. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant has canceled claim 33 without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

V. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

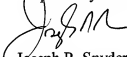
Claims 27-28 and 31-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Cocks *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,607,879) in view of Nielsen *et al.* (*Gut*, 38:414-420 (1996)) and Sallenave *et al.* (*Biol. Chem. Hoppe-Seyler*, 373:27-33 (1992)). Claims 27-28 and 31-36 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Dieckgraefe *et al.* (*Gastroenterology*, 114:A964-965 (1998)) in view of Cocks *et al.*, Nielsen *et al.*, and Sallenave *et al.* Applicant has canceled claims 27-28 and 31-36 without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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